



City of Alexandria, VA

City Hall, 301 King St. Room 3500, Alexandria, VA 22314

eNews

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 1, 2009

For More Information, Contact:

Jack Browand, Special Projects Coordinator at
703.838.5095, ext. 273

Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities programs and activities' announcement for the month of May 2009:

- Community & Special Events
- Lunch Bunch Concerts
- West End Farmers' Market
- Out of School Programs
- Summer Camp Opportunities
- Nature Programs
- Arts in Alexandria
- Adult & Youth Sports
- Commission Meetings
- 2009 Park & Recreation Commission CIVIC Awards
- 2009 Alexandria Beautification Awards
- Dispatches from the Front

For additional information, visit alexandriava.gov/recreation or call 703.838.4343.

COMMUNITY & SPECIAL EVENTS

May 1

Spring For Alexandria

Market Square, 301 King Street from noon – 5 pm

Sponsor: Alexandria Volunteer Bureau

For more information, call Melinda Patrician at 703.836.2176 or email

mpatrican@alexandriavolunteerbureau.org

May 3

Help Prevent Childhood Obesity Family 5k Walk/Run

Cameron Run Wave Pool 4001 Eisenhower Avenue from 8:30 am – 10:30 am

Sponsor: YMCA Alexandria

For more information, call Lucresha Murphy at 703.400.5170 or email Lucresha.Murphy@ymcadc.org

May 17**Colin Casey Fun Run**

Sponsor: St. Mary's School

St. Mary's School, 400 Green St. from 7-10 am

For more information, call Gage & Michael Gribbon at 703.960.5528 or email

gagesheridan@yahoo.com

May 25**32nd Annual Memorial Day Jazz Festival**

Fort Ward Park, 4301 W. Braddock Rd. from 1-7 pm

Sponsor: City of Alexandria

1 pm The Jazz Ambassadors of the United States Army Field Band (Big Band)

2 pm Barbara Martin Quartet (Traditional Vocal Jazz)

3 pm Al Williams (Contemporary)

4 pm Dixieland Direct (Traditional Dixie)

5 pm Bruce Swaim Quartet featuring Lyle Link (Mainstream)

List of scheduled performers is subject to change without notice. For more information, call the Special Events Hotline at 703.883.4686 or the Special Events Office at 703.838.4844.

May 28**Taste of Old Town North**

Montgomery Park, 300 Montgomery St. from 5:30-7:30 pm

Sponsor: Old Town North Community Partnership

For more information, call Elizabeth Frommer at 703.836.8066 or email efrommer@mreproperties.com

May 30**Mayor's Cup Rugby Challenge Match**

GW Stadium Field, 1005 Mt. Vernon Ave. from 10 am – 6 pm

Sponsor: Alexandria Rugby, Inc.

For more information, call Owen Malone at 703.851.6188 or email alexandriarugby@comcast.net

May 30-31**Old Town Arts & Crafts Fair**

Market Square, 301 King St. from 1-6 pm & 10 am-6 pm

Sponsor: Alexandria Volunteer Bureau

For more information, call Melinda Patrician at 703.683.1793 or email

mpatrician@alexandriavolunteerbureau.org

May 31**"Incidence" Dance Performance by Jane Franklin Dance**

King Street Gardens Park, 1806 King St from 4:30-5 pm

Sponsor: Jane Franklin Dance

For more information, call Jane Franklin Dance at 703.933.1111 or visit www.janefranklin.com

City of Alexandria to Host AHS Garden School

Eco-City Principles In Action: Sustainable Gardening Practices

The City of Alexandria, in cooperation with the American Horticultural Society (AHS), will host a new Garden School, "Green Garage®: Sustainable and Earth-Friendly Solutions for the Landscape" on Saturday, June 27 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. Garden School participants will learn about environmentally friendly gardening practices from organic lawn care and water conservation to soil health and creating wildlife habitats.

Focusing on Eco-City outreach, the Garden School will include lectures, hands-on workshops, and an exhibit hall featuring companies that offer green products, services, and tools. AHS members and City of Alexandria residents will receive a registration discount. Space for this exclusive program is limited, so early registration is recommended. To register, visit http://www.ahs.org/events/garden_schools/09/index.htm, or call 703.768.5700, extension 132.

LUNCH BUNCH CONCERTS

“Lunch Bunch” Concerts at Market Square

The City’s Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities and General Services is sponsoring the “Lunch Bunch” concerts at Market Square, 301 King St. The concerts, which feature students from local and visiting schools, are free and open to the public. All concerts begin at 12:15 p.m. Please note that in case of inclement weather, concerts may be canceled. To check the status of concerts, please call the Special Events Hotline at 703.883.4686. For a complete list of performances, visit www.alexandriava.gov/recreation.

WEST END FARMERS’ MARKET

City Announces the Opening of the West End Farmers’ Market

The public is invited to the opening of the West End Farmers’ Market at 9 am on Sunday, May 3 at Ben Brenman Park, located at 4800 Brenman Park Drive. The West End Farmers’ Market is open to the public on Sundays beginning May 3 through November 22 from 9 am to 1 pm. For additional information, call 703.838.4343.

OUT OF SCHOOL PROGRAMS

"A World of Culture"

Travel the distance through the "A World of Culture" program

This program is designed to help capture the imagination, encourage education, and stimulate learning while having fun. Communication through the fine and visual arts, coupled with education, help integrate excitement while providing insight and respect for the culture of the world.

Celebrations, food workshops, music, dance, visual arts, civic event activities, and eco-systems are planned throughout the calendar year.

The activities infuse innovative program ideas, diversified leisure interests and learning to support the idea of exposing participants to events and people that have shaped the culture of our world. Call the recreation center in your neighborhood for additional information.

May

Asian-American and Pacific-American Month

Multi-faceted activities including covering food, clothing, language, folklore and unique celebrations of

Americans from China, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia will teach participants the experiences of these Americans.

SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES

The City offers a variety of summer camps for children and teens ages 3 to 17 years of age. Camps include the following: Sports Camp, Day Camp, Theatre Camp, Soccer Camp, Tennis Camp, Tiny Tot Tennis Camp, Basketball Camp, Baseball Camp, Ballet Camp, Gap Camp, Inline Skating Camp and Rafting Trips. Camp weeks vary from June, 29 through September, 4 2009. Registrations will be accepted until each camp is filled. For any additional information or to register visit www.alexandriava.gov/recreation or call Melissa Riddy at 703.838.4812.

NATURE PROGRAMS

Budding Naturalist Camp

This summer the Jerome “Buddie” Ford Nature Center is offering two fun-filled summer day camp for children ages 5 to 12. In the “Budding Naturalist” camp, designed for children entering kindergarten or 1st grade, participants will explore the fascinating world of reptiles and amphibians. Camp participants will be led through forest, field and stream in search of these elusive creatures. Camp features outdoor hikes, creation of herpiterrium, arts, crafts and more! One session of “Budding Naturalist” camp is offered: June 24-26 from 1 – 3 pm. The cost for City residents is \$85 per session and Nonresidents is \$110. Advance registration required. To register, or to request additional information, call the Naturalist staff at 703.838.4829.

ARTS IN ALEXANDRIA

Sign up for Arts eNews!

The Office of the Arts now has eNews. To receive periodic news and announcements on arts events, programs and services from the Office of the Arts, sign up for Arts eNews by visiting <https://enews.alexandriava.gov/index.php?CCheck=1>.

Alexandria Film Festival Seeks Submissions through June 29, 2009

The Third Annual Alexandria Film Festival is soliciting entries from U.S. and international filmmakers. The festival will be held Thursday, September 24 - Sunday, September 27 at the George Washington Memorial Masonic Temple. This year, the Film Festival is partnering with Withoutabox, the film industry’s premier online service platform. To submit your film online, please visit www.withoutabox.com/login/7816. All entries submitted through Withoutabox will receive an additional discount. For more information or to obtain entry forms and submission guidelines, visit www.alexandriafilm.org. For questions, call the Alexandria Commission for the Arts at 703.838.6348 or aca@alexandriava.gov.

Charles Houston Memorial Public Art Project

The City of Alexandria seeks to commission public art for the new Charles Houston Recreation Center in Alexandria, Virginia. The Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the public art will be posted this month. The purpose of an RFQ is to qualify prospective artists prior to the issuance of a Request for Proposals for the creation of the public art design. From the RFQ submissions, three artists will be selected to compete for the commission. For more information, please visit www.alexandriava.gov/arts or e-mail aca@alexandriava.gov. Private funds are being raised for this project. If you are interested in making a donation, call Alisa Carrel at 703.838.5095, ext. 270.

Alexandria Commission for the Arts Meeting

On May 19, the Alexandria Commission for the Arts will hold its monthly meeting at 7:30pm with the Historic Alexandria Resource Commission at the Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. Additional committee meetings are scheduled throughout the month. All meetings are open to the public. For more information, call Cheryl Anne Colton at 703.838.6348.

Northern Virginia High School Clay Competition Reception

On May 20, a closing reception will be held at the Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. for the Northern Virginia Clay Competition participants. For more information, call the Commission for the Arts at 703.838.6348.

Alexandria Arts Forum Meeting

On May 28 at noon, the Alexandria Arts Forum will hold its monthly meet at the Durant Center, 1605 Cameron St. This month's featured speaker is Joe Shumard, Acting President and CEO of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce. For more information, email Alan Wile, President, at alan.wile@comcast.net.

ADULT & YOUTH SPORTS

Coaches Needed

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities is currently seeking volunteers to coach youth Volleyball, Cheerleading, Basketball, Baseball and Softball. Criminal History background checks are required. Interested persons should call the Youth Sports Office at 703.838.4345 or e-mail mac.slover@alexandriava.gov or tamika.coleman@alexandriava.gov.

Annual Cheerleading Competition

The Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities sponsored the Annual City – Wide Cheerleading Competition on April 18, 2009 at T.C. Williams High School. The competition featured cheerleading teams from Charles Barrett, Charles Houston, Cora Kelly, Mount Vernon, and William Ramsay Recreation Centers. There were also special performances from the William Ramsay Dance Troupe, Young Titans Dance Team and the Hot Topic All Stars Cheerleaders.

The competition featured teams in three divisions. In the Pee Wee division, teams from Charles Houston, Cora Kelly, Mount Vernon and William Ramsay entertained the crowd with great performances. Charles Barrett, Charles Houston Cora Kelly, Mount Vernon, and William Ramsay competed in the Junior Varsity division. Charles Houston was the only team competing in the Varsity division. In the Junior Varsity Division, William Ramsay finished third, Cora Kelly finished second, and Charles Houston finished first.

For more information on the cheerleading program and other youth sports programs, please call the Youth Sports Office at 703.838.4345. Registration for the 2009 – 2010 cheerleading season will begin in September.

Adult Sports Spring Update and Summer League Registration

The Adult Sport's Spring 2009 leagues have opened for Coed Volleyball, Men & Coed Softball, Coed Soccer and Women's Flag Football.

Men & Women's Summer Basketball Leagues

Registration is ongoing and the deadline is Friday, May 22.

Coed Volleyball Tournaments

Sunday, May 31, June 28 and July 26, will Coed Volleyball Tournaments at the newly renovated Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St.

Team fees are charged for each sport activity. For additional information and to receive a team registration packet, visit alexandriava.gov/recreation, call 703.838.5003 or email Marvin Elliott, Adult Sports Supervisor, at marvin.elliott@alexandriava.gov.

COMMISSION MEETINGS

All commission and committee meeting are open to the public.

May 14

Alexandria Beautification Commission, 7:30 pm

Lee Center, 1108 Jefferson St. For additional information, call 703.838.5041.

May 19

Alexandria Waterfront Committee, 7:30 am

Lee Center 1108 Jefferson St. For additional information, call 703.838.4842.

May 19

Commission for the Arts, 7:30 pm

Lyceum, 201 S. Washington St. For additional information call 703.838.6348.

May 21

Park and Recreation Commission, 7:30 pm

Charles Houston Recreation Center, 901 Wythe St. For additional information, call 703.838.4842.

2009 PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION CIVIC AWARDS

The City of Alexandria Park and Recreation Commission announces its 24th annual awards program to select and formally recognize outstanding citizens who have provided a valuable service to our community in meeting recreation, park, or cultural needs. An Alexandria group, club, organization or corporate neighbor may also be nominated for an award for such service. Nominees for the award for citizen, group, club, organization, or corporate neighbor should be volunteers who have contributed time, talent or resources in an exemplary fashion. Youth nominations are encouraged. Whether the volunteer activity involves removing invasive plants, coaching youth, or providing program support at City nature and recreation centers, the CIVIC Awards recognize the special, unsung volunteer efforts of Alexandrians involved in their community. The Park and Recreation Commission invites your help in identifying those who contribute so that they may be recognized. For additional information, visit www.alexandriava.gov/recreation.

2009 ALEXANDRIA BEAUTIFICATION AWARDS

The City of Alexandria's Beautification Commission is accepting nominations for the 2009 Alexandria Beautification Awards. The award's program recognizes City residents, organizations, and businesses for their efforts in contributing to the beautification of City neighborhoods and public vistas with landscaping and aesthetic design. Nominations must be received by Friday, May 29. Nominations, with property address clearly identified, may be sent by email to jenniferspugh@gmail.com or by mail to:

Alexandria Beautification Commission, PO Box 178, Alexandria, VA 22313. For additional information, call Jennifer Pugh, Chair, Alexandria Beautification Commission, at 703.919.1480 or by email at jenniferspugh@gmail.com.

DISPATCHES FROM THE FRONT

"Dispatches from the Front" is the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities newsletter reporting on current issues, activities and updates on park projects. To view the current issue, visit www.alexandriava.gov.

The City of Alexandria is committed to compliance with the City's Human Rights Code and the Americans with Disabilities Act. To request a reasonable accommodation or to request materials in an alternative format, call the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities at 703.838.4343 (TTY 703.838.4902).